

EXHIBIT 2

DATE 3/7/2013

SB 83

Montana Sportsmen ALLIANCE

Voice of Reason on Montana Fish and Wildlife Issues

TO THE HOUSE FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS COMMITTEE:

RE: SB 83-An Act Establishing Criteria For The Transplantation of Mountain Sheep

POSITION: Montana Sportsmen Alliance hereby goes on record **ADAMANTLY OPPOSING** this bill based on the following reasons:

- One property owner with one goat could stop the transplant under 3(a).
- The FWP does not have the funds available to meet #3 (v).
- Unlikely FWP could ever receive the % approval of private land under 6 (a)(i).
- Many of the requirements are already in place with FWP.
- SB 83 would effectively eliminate future Big Horn Sheep transplants/introductions in Montana.
- We presently have an over population of sheep in some areas with no place to transplant them. If disease hits these herds, the entire herd could be lost.
- Two transplants this past summer were cancelled by FWP over landowner concerns based on FWP current transplant criteria. An EA was prepared for a proposed sheep transplant in the Bridger but was put on hold due to landowner concerns.
- The mechanisms to protect landowners and livestock already exist.

Once again we would like to state our **ADAMANT OPPOSITION for SB 83.**

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Montana Sportsmen Alliance Leadership Group

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